New Play Equipment Coming to Ridgewood Park Council President Scott Peters, First District For the Corridor News, August 2007

Upgrading existing parks in your community has been one of my highest neighborhood priorities for this area. By working together with the planning and park groups in Peñasquitos, the City provided lighting at the Canyonside Park ball fields in 2001, and replaced aging play equipment at Peñasquitos Creek Neighborhood Park and Twin Trails Park in 2002 and 2005.

Last year, Park and Recreation staff removed damaged and vandalized play equipment from Ridgewood Neighborhood Park, with plans to replace them within several months. Unfortunately, a housing slowdown created fewer developer fee dollars than were needed to replace the equipment as planned. The replacement date was pushed back to 2008, in my view, an unacceptable delay.

My staff and I worked with the Rancho Peñasquitos Planning Board and the Peñasquitos Park and Rec Council to find a way to speed up the replacement of the well-used play equipment. Last month, the City Council unanimously approved a plan to transfer funds from the Rancho Peñasquitos East Trust Fund to the Ridgewood Park project, and to reimburse the trust fund with developer fees as they become available in the future.

Work should begin in the last week of October and take approximately two months to complete. I hope to see you all at the rededication of this popular park later this year.

I'm pleased to announce some changes in my office which affect the neighborhoods of Rancho Peñasquitos, Black Mountain Ranch and Torrey Highlands.

After two years of service to these fine communities, Council Representative Woo-Jin Shim will now represent the adjacent community of Carmel Valley. His tireless work on behalf of residents, as well as his strong working relationship with the many planning boards and constituencies of this area, led to real progress, such as the acceleration of the timelines for Torrey Del Mar, Ridgewood and Linear Parks, and the funding of a stoplight at Black Mountain Ranch Community Park.

Your new representative to Peñasquitos, Black Mountain Ranch and Torrey Highlands is current University City rep Madeleine Baudoin. After four years of service to University City, and work on healthcare, technology and parks policy, Madeleine was ready for an additional challenge. She specifically asked to work with your communities.

Madeleine is particularly looking forward to working with your communities on park enhancement projects, such as Canyonside Park, Ridgewood Park, Torrey del Mar Neighborhood Park, and the completion of the planned dog park located along Salmon River Road in Peñasquitos.

Madeleine graduated from Emerson College with a degree in Speech Communication, Marketing and Public Relations. I am confident that her background in communications and community-building will augment the fine work done by Woo-Jin over the past few years. I encourage you to meet Madeleine at an upcoming community meeting. Please turn to her with your questions, concerns and ideas for how to make your community an even better place in which to live.

Community representative Madeleine Baudoin can be reached by telephone at (619) 236-6611, or by email at mbaudoin@sandiego.gov.